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John Kean to Susan Kean, April 3, 1787

John Kean

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My Dear Susan

Tinker left this on the 28th & got to sea the 29th he bore you three first bills of Exchange amounting in the whole to £383.8/7 New York currency, the duplicates of which I now send you; in case of any accidents having happened to the first, these will be valid, but, if the first have arrived safe, then these are of no use. —

I also now inclose you a final settlement certificate for 1333 $\frac{30}{100}$ ^{ths} dol^r which if necessary you can dispose of; it is worth between 160 & 170 dollars in money —

I have been detained these three days by bad weather — the last of March & first of April are peculiarly obnoxious to my constitution it was on those days I went to Long Island, these I flatter myself will not have as bad consequences for being aware of my situation I kept myself close to my room; had a good fire — thought of my Susan & was as happy as any one in my state could be — two or three changes from warm mild weather, to cool, damp, & heavy, that have taken place since my arrival, have

convinced me how much I must have suffered by
the very cold weather in New York - when the
air is clear & temperate I am perfectly well & don't
cough more than twice ~~or~~ thrice in twenty four
hours, but as soon as it becomes cold or damp I
cough a good deal & feel some pain in my breast
but happily for me we have not had more than
four such days in the three weeks I have been
here - they have checked my progress no doubt
but I have mended on the whole most surprisingly
my appetite good, my strength increased and my
whole appearance so much mended that John
says I shall be quite fat by May if I go on
at the same rate that I have begun - the little
checks that the cool weather has given me, will
have this good consequence to make me more
careful not to expose myself to any cold weather
next winter, but to keep myself in a mild and
temperate air for the next twelve months at
least - I have not been able to use much exercise
on Horseback not being conveniently situated for

that purpose here, but in the country I shall have horses at command - this I think a circumstance much in my favour for exercise being a very principal matter & my mending so much without it gives me a well grounded hope that all my complaints will yield when I take a necessary quantity of it - Temperance, air, exercise with the blessing of heaven will restore me a fit object of my Susans love and where souls like ours are knit together by so firm a bond as ours are, happiness must be the consequence our delights are centered in each other - knowing the little ease that great riches afford, little will satisfy us - ambition nor avarice shall have no resting place with us - but truly independent on our little & loving virtue for her own sake - looking forward to a blissful change from this to a better life - we will pass our days in ease - our ways shall be the path of peace & content shall make us happy -

I long most ardently to hear from you - I want to know how you are, what

you occupy yourself in, every thing you do is of the highest consequence to me - but above all I want to see from your own hand the delightful sentences - I am easy & contented - my health is perfectly good - I want but you to make me happy - charming words - my soul thrills but at the thought of them -

It was announced the other day that a vessel had arrived from New York - instantly John was sent away to the post office and I was strangely agitated with the pleasure I expected but lo! I was disappointed - the vessel had only passed by New York on her way from some part of Connecticut -

My paper warns me to draw to a conclusion -

You know my sincere good wishes attend all the family - but I am more anxious about your father than the rest - present my love, my respects, my compliments, you know the classes to whom these belong - to you my love I present myself assuring you that I am your affectionate

Charleston Apr. 3. 1787.

John Bran